

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Volume: 23-04
Released: September 7, 2004
Week Ending: September 5, 2004

Phone: 503 326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
E-Mail: nass-or@nass.usda.gov

National website at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/pubs/pubs.htm>
Oregon website at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/or>

Weather: Some showers fell across the State last week, though not as strong as those from the previous two weeks. Significant precipitation was recorded in the Willamette Valley and in the Bend area. Some northeastern areas also noted early-week showers, with dry conditions the remainder of the week. Dry conditions persisted in southeastern and north-central Oregon. Overnight temperatures are now becoming cooler, with low temperatures in the forties and thirties in most of eastern Oregon. High temperatures still generally ranged in the upper eighties and nineties across the State. Growing degree days (base 50) were as high as 147 in The Dalles.

Field Crops: Fall fieldwork and fertilizing continued in many areas last week. Cooler weather and occasional rain showers improved soil moisture conditions in the east. The few producers that did still have small grains out in the field reported some instances of sprout and mold damage. Corn for silage harvest got underway in Malheur County. Producers in western Oregon were busy harvesting alfalfa and red clover and preparing fields for fall seeding. Grass seed harvest was nearly complete in Marion County and hops were being harvested in Washington County.

Fruit and Nuts: Bartlett pear harvest was completed in the upper Hood River Valley; Gala apple and d'Anjou pear harvests were well underway in the lower Hood River Valley. Apples and Comice pears were harvested in Jackson County; d'Anjou's should be ready soon. Pears and apples were also harvested in Wasco County and throughout the Willamette Valley. Yamhill County grapes were about two weeks ahead of schedule; harvest should begin with 7 to 10 days on early varieties. Hazelnut drop was accelerating, while growers finished their final orchard floor flailing. Some southern coast cranberry growers reported the development of a second bloom.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were irrigating and preparing for the fall shipping season. Greenhouses were busy with fall flowers and preparing for holiday plants. Breaded iris growers were harvesting tubers and shipping tubers to customers. Christmas tree growers were shearing trees and getting ready to attend the Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree show and meeting in Portland next weekend. Oregon's biggest dahlia growers finished up their open house this past weekend.

Vegetables: Green bean harvest was coming to a close in Clackamas County. Sweet corn harvest continued throughout the State. Truck gardens in Josephine County are producing large amounts of tomatoes, corn, beans, cucumbers, melons, summer squash, peppers and eggplants. Winter squash was beginning to ripen. In Malheur County, onions have been lifted and are sitting in rows. Potato harvest was underway there.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures and rangeland in many areas across the State continued to recover from the dry summer conditions. Precipitation received since mid-August has promoted re-growth as dryland pastures started to turn green again after being previously dormant. Some drier areas continued to report deteriorating pasture conditions, but overall conditions should continue to improve. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 9/5/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley harvested (%)	87	82	95	84
Spring Wheat harvested (%)	92	87	99	95
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.2	4.6	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 9/5/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	5	37	58	—
Subsoil (%)	11	34	55	—

Crop Condition - Week Ending 9/5/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture (%)	3	14	42	35	6

CLACKAMAS: Grain harvest complete. Field preparations for fall seeding underway. Blackberry harvest nearly finished. Apples in various stages of harvest depending on variety. Green beans nearing end of harvest while sweet corn harvest continues. Pumpkin fields really benefitted from the August rains. Nurseries are back to irrigating and preparing for the fall shipping season. Livestock look good. Dryland pastures are starting to green up after the good rains in August. Field conditions great for tillage. Pears and prunes ready.

COOS/CURRY: Some cranberry growers reported the development of a second bloom. Easter lily growers resumed yearling harvest and planting activities. Livestock mostly good. Abundant sunshine and dry weather returned to the southern coast. Days since precipitation of 0.25 inches or more at Brookings-Harbor: 10 days, at Bandon: 10 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 59.8 at Bandon to 62.6 deg F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 70.4 at Bandon to 82.2 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 48.1 at Bandon to 49.8 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches at Brookings-Harbor to 0.01 inches at Bandon. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 69 GDD at Bandon to 89 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

JACKSON: Some fields prepared for fall seeding. Straw baled from grain fields. Pear harvest in full swing with all varieties harvested. Irrigation on orchards continues. Sweet corn, melons, tomatoes and other vegetable crops being harvested. Second cutting of grass hay being made. Third cutting of alfalfa also being done. Ground moisture is really short but some field preparation being done for fall planting. Hay ground with irrigation is doing okay but taking lots of water to keep the growth coming on. Vineyards are looking quite good and should have a good harvest. Lots of summer vegetables at roadside stands. Farmers markets are quite busy with direct sales of fruits and vegetables. Last week's cooler weather has helped to ripen most vegetable crops. Greenhouses busy with fall flowers and some fall vegetable starts. Lots of mums showing up for sale. Nurseries busy with watering and other plant maintenance.

JOSEPHINE: Much better weather. Still warm days, but cooler and longer nights. Tree fruits, apples, peaches, plums and pears are all bearing now. Grapes are coming on. Not quite sweet enough for table grapes. Haven't seen evidence of harvest of wine grapes. Truck gardens are producing copious amounts of tomatoes, corn, beans, cucumbers, melons, squash (summer), peppers, eggplant, etc. Winter squash is just starting to ripen.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Grass seed being prepared for fall seeding. Some late blueberry varieties. Apples look like a nice crop. Late infection of apple scab. Peaches nearing end of harvest. Some late summer brown rot due to heavy rains. Check for eastern filbert blight on hazelnuts and look for brown branches. Still a lot of tomatoes out in the fields. Nice summer vegetable crop. Some greenhouse and nursery production but sales are slowing down.

MARION: Red clover seed harvest nearing completion. Hop harvest continued with average to slightly better yields reported. Field preparation made for fall seeding of new tall fescue and perennial ryegrass fields. Irrigation applied to some nurseries and vegetables. Grass seed harvest nearly done, with most straw in sheds and field burning about done. Sweet corn harvest well underway.

WASHINGTON: Windrowing red clover, delayed by recent rains. Hops being harvested in the valley. Field corn ears filling nicely. Fourth cutting alfalfa underway. Blackberries, strawberries (everbearing) and blueberries all being harvested. Hazelnut drop accelerating. Walnuts looking good and filling well. Sweet corn harvest continued, many varieties at markets. Some digging of green shrubs and preparing soil for fall plantings. Pastures greening up after rains and cooler nights. Cattle and calves looking good.

YAMHILL: Hazelnut growers were finishing their final orchard floor flailing. Late season peaches being harvested. Last of red clover harvested, delayed slightly by rains a week ago. Sweet corn harvest continued and corn silage will begin soon. Winter vegetables are looking good. Grapes are ahead of schedule by about two weeks, should start to see harvest within 7 to 10 days on early varieties. Apple harvest continued with a good crop and winter pears should be starting within a week.

EASTERN OREGON

DESCHUTES: Continued showers slowed harvest for most of the week.

HOOD RIVER: Bartlett pear harvest was completed in the upper Hood River Valley. Gala apple and d'Anjou pear harvest was well underway in the lower valley.

MALHEUR: Still not much rain to speak of. Potato and vegetable crop harvest underway. Cool weather all last week helped the sugarbeet crop. A lot of onions have been lifted and are sitting in rows, waiting for better market conditions. Some of the irrigation reservoirs have been drained. Harvest of silage corn has started. Dry bean harvest has resumed and should be almost complete. Wheat and barley harvest has pretty much wrapped up.

MORROW: We had a good rain last week which should help fall green up get started.

UMATILLA: No fall movement of livestock as of yet. Last cutting of alfalfa ongoing. Wheat harvest began to wrap up.

UNION: Fall appeared to come early this week. Temperatures dropped, clouds and rain came in, and cool winds blew across the Grande Ronde Valley. However, by the end of the week, a warming trend occurred. Mint harvest is in its final stages with most of the fields already cut. Grain harvest continued, especially in the later days of the week as temperatures warmed up and dry conditions returned. Range and pasture conditions continued to be very good, no doubt helped by recent rainfall.

WALLOWA: Not as much moisture received this week compared to last week, which allowed some producers to harvest more grain, but there are some reports of sprout and mold damage. Forecast is not good for next week, as far as harvest goes.

WASCO: Field cultivation and fertilization continued on summer-fallow ground being readied for winter wheat planting. Grain planting will start first in the Tygh Ridge and Center Ridge areas. Fruit harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas on peaches, pears and apples. Final alfalfa hay cutting is slowly underway due to cool, moist weather. Livestock are holding their own on dwindling pasture conditions. Cool fall temperatures with morning dew began to become prevalent. No rain fell this week.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING September 5, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	52	74	63	4	90	20	0.49	-0.02	4	0.49	0.12	132	4
Crescent City	45	64	56	-4	47	-16	0.02	-0.28	2	0.01	-0.21	5	1
Florence	44	81	61	0	79	2	0.16	-0.27	1	0.16	-0.15	52	1
North Bend	48	73	61	2	75	5	0.13	-0.20	1	0.13	-0.12	52	1
Tillamook	45	71	60	2	72	9	0.17	-0.49	1	0.17	-0.31	35	2
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	48	93	67	4	124	23	0.25	-0.03	2	0.25	0.05	125	2
Eugene	45	92	64	-2	100	-9	0.81	0.46	3	0.81	0.56	324	3
Hillsboro	45	88	65	2	104	9	0.10	-0.19	2	0.10	-0.11	48	2
McMinnville	45	90	65	1	106	6	0.18	-0.11	2	0.18	-0.03	86	2
Portland AP	52	87	67	1	121	6	0.04	-0.32	2	0.04	-0.22	15	2
Salem	49	90	66	2	113	11	0.32	0.04	2	0.32	0.12	160	2
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	46	97	68	0	129	1	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Medford	45	98	69	-1	133	-2	0.00	-0.16	0	0.00	-0.12	0	0
Roseburg AP	48	95	67	1	119	3	0.13	-0.08	2	0.13	-0.02	87	2
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	37	89	61	0	80	0	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.15	0	0
Heppner	43	91	64	-1	102	-3	0.00	-0.15	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Hermiston AP	48	94	68	2	130	8	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
John Day	43	92	63	0	93	0	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.15	0	0
Moro	45	91	66	3	111	18	0.05	-0.09	1	0.05	-0.05	50	1
Pendleton AP	47	93	68	1	125	1	0.00	-0.13	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
The Dalles	54	97	71	8	147	53	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	34	89	60	2	72	6	0.89	0.75	2	0.89	0.79	890	2
Burns	34	92	60	1	70	3	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Klamath Falls	37	89	60	-4	70	-20	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Lakeview	34	88	59	-3	65	-15	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Redmond	33	92	59	-2	68	-9	0.05	-0.08	3	0.05	-0.05	50	3
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	38	93	59	-3	67	-15	0.01	-0.20	1	0.01	-0.14	7	1
Joseph	36	84	58	2	61	9	0.06	-0.22	1	0.06	-0.14	30	1
La Grande AP	37	93	62	-3	86	-14	0.02	-0.22	1	0.02	-0.15	12	1
Union	38	93	61	0	82	-2	0.01	-0.27	1	0.01	-0.19	5	1
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	49	97	68	0	128	2	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0
Rome	38	99	66	3	112	12	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.10	0	0

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2004.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2004: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Janice A. Goodwin, Director

Oregon Crop Weather 23-04
Kevin Young, Math Statistician

PERMIT NO. G-38
NATIONAL AG STATISTICS
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
FIRST CLASS MAIL

Portla
1735 Fe
Sta
Ore